

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 4, 2005
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 29, 2005

SENATE BILL

No. 338

Introduced by Senators Maldonado and Alquist

February 16, 2005

An act to add Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) to Part 28 of the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 338, as amended, Maldonado. School curricula: Internet safety.

Existing law prescribes various matters to be included in the adopted course of study at the appropriate elementary and secondary grade levels.

~~This bill would, commencing with the 2006-07 school year, authorize a school district to adopt and implement curricula on Internet safety education, as specified, to be incorporated into the adopted course of study~~ *require the State Department of Education, in cooperation with industry, and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety, to identify existing Internet safety programs and make that information available on its Web site for use in public schools.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Pupils are spending increasingly greater amounts of time
- 4 interacting on the Internet in the course of both research and
- 5 social interaction.

(b) With the increase in worldwide Internet use, many safety concerns have arisen with regard to Internet use, including concerns as to personal safety, privacy, and the protection of intellectual property.

(c) Increased use of the Internet as an educational tool has raised concerns in the areas of cheating, plagiarism, and illegal downloading, and pupils are more tempted than ever to engage in unethical, and sometimes unlawful, practices in these areas. Without providing warnings or raising pupil awareness as to these dangers, the ease of Internet use and the availability of resources is likely to cause some younger pupils to engage in these practices ignorantly,

(d) The risks and dangers that are increasingly associated with Internet use are as real and as dangerous to pupils and to society as the more familiar physical dangers addressed in school safety plans and codes of conduct, and it is in the best interests of the state to educate pupils concerning these risks and dangers.

SEC. 2. Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) is added to Part 28 of the Education Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.8. INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION

51950. *The department, in cooperation with industry, and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety, shall identify existing Internet safety programs and make that information available on its Web site for use in public schools. The department shall act as liaison between the schools and school districts and the industry and nonprofit organizations involved with Internet safety.*

~~(a) Commencing with the 2006-07 school year, the governing board of a school district may adopt and implement comprehensive, age-appropriate curricula in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, that provides instruction on safety in working and interacting on the Internet.~~

~~(b) The curricula shall include all of the following topics:~~

~~(1) Interaction with persons in the cyber community.~~

~~(2) Personal safety in interacting with persons on the Internet.~~

~~(3) Recognition and avoidance of on-line bullying.~~

~~(4) Technology, computer virus issues, and methods to avoid computer virus infection.~~

1 ~~(5) Predator identification.~~

2 ~~(6) Intellectual property, including education concerning~~
3 ~~plagiarism and techniques to avoid committing plagiarism and~~
4 ~~laws concerning downloading copyrighted materials including~~
5 ~~music.~~

6 ~~(7) Privacy and the Internet.~~

7 ~~(8) On-line literacy, including instruction on methods of~~
8 ~~identifying credible, factual, trustworthy Web sites.~~

9 ~~(9) Homeland security issues related to Internet use.~~

10 ~~(e) The curricula shall be incorporated into the course of study~~
11 ~~required pursuant to Chapter 2, rather than isolating the curricula~~
12 ~~as a separate class.~~

13 ~~(d) A school district is encouraged to use available Internet~~
14 ~~safety curricula resources, including materials available through~~
15 ~~nonprofit Internet safety foundations that are endorsed by the~~
16 ~~federal government. A school district is also encouraged to~~
17 ~~collaborate with a local law enforcement agency in the~~
18 ~~development of the curricula, particularly with regard to topics~~
19 ~~that address personal safety on the Internet, predator~~
20 ~~identification, privacy, and homeland security.~~

21 ~~(e) A school district that adopts curricula pursuant to~~
22 ~~subdivision (a) shall annually review and, if necessary, make~~
23 ~~revisions.~~

24 ~~(f) (1) A school district that adopts curricula pursuant to~~
25 ~~subdivision (a) shall designate a person responsible for~~
26 ~~overseeing implementation in each school in the school district.~~

27 ~~(2) The person designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall~~
28 ~~submit an annual curricula implementation report to the~~
29 ~~governing board of the school district that provides an overview~~
30 ~~of the curricula. The governing board shall forward the report to~~
31 ~~the department and make the report available on the Web site of~~
32 ~~the school district.~~